

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Board of Directors at Vancouver College sets the tuition fees annually based on the estimated revenues and operating costs. At its meeting yesterday evening, the VC Board set the fees for the 2020-2021 school year at \$8,200 per student, an increase of \$375 (4.8%). This increase includes financing the implementation of two exciting changes to our learning environment that will enhance students' educational experience and as such is more than the usual rate of inflation. These enhancements are:

- A three-year classroom technology plan for students in K to Grade 12
- A long-term plan to address class sizes beginning next year with Grade 8.

The multi-year technology plan includes issuing students from Grades 7 to 12 their personal Chromebook. In addition, Elementary students will have access to updated classroom-based technology including carts of iPads and Chromebooks. Some schools impose a separate fee over and above tuition fees to cover improvements in technology programming. However, we believe the responsible use of technology is integral to each student's educational experience and should be included in tuition fees.

Driven by the Administration's firm commitment to its <u>Continuous Improvement Plan and learning priorities</u>, in 2020-21 the school will initiate a multi-year plan to reduce class sizes commencing with our incoming Grade 8's. A sixth homeroom in Grade 8 will be added next year thereby reducing the number of students in each class. This plan will require the hiring of additional faculty. Adjustments to Grade 9 and other grades will roll out in subsequent years.

The Board is grateful to Principal Johnny Bevacqua and his exceptional Administrative team who have carefully thought out the development of these positive changes in learning conditions. Their implementation will allow faculty and students to experience an education that better supports the needs of today's students. Please read the <u>Classroom and Learning Enhancements Plan</u> prepared by Mr. Bevacqua detailing the above-mentioned changes.

Vancouver College remains committed to providing an accessible Catholic-based education to all families, as envisioned by our founder Blessed Edmund Rice, through our strong Bursary Program. If your family needs help meeting tuition costs, we sincerely encourage you to apply for assistance. Bursary information and application forms are available <u>online</u> or from Kelly Lattimer, Director of Finance & Facilities, through a confidential process.

The Administration, faculty, and staff of Vancouver College continually strive to enable each boy to be the best he can be within this faith and learning community. On behalf of my colleagues on the Board, thank you for your ongoing support of Vancouver College and may God bless you and your families.

Semper Fidelis,

Susan Dvorak
Chair, Board of Directors
Vancouver College